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## Official War Bulletins.

C. A. Dana, Acting Secretary of War, issued two bulletins dated last night. The first one contains the following dispatches:

"CHATTANOOGA, TENN., Oct. 17, 3 P. M.—Hood's main force was about Lafayette last night, and Sherman at Ship's Gap. The report of yesterday that Hood was approaching Carpenter's Ferry is a mistake. He had not crossed Lookout Mountain last night.

"J. M. SCHOFIELD, Major General."

Another official dispatch, dated at Chattanooga yesterday, is as follows:

"I left General Sherman at Ship's Gap, in Taylor's Ridge, at dark last night. The General and army are all right and in the best of spirits. Hood won't fight, though offered battle repeatedly. His dreadful repulse at Allatoona has made him very cautious. Gen. Slocum is all right at Atlanta, with plenty of provisions and forage.

"Hood's raid has produced no military result as yet. If he fails to invade Tennessee, as he has promised his men, he will lose by desertion twice as many as he has captured. The losses in men thus far have been in our favor.

"Hood demanded the surrender of Dalton, and said, if surrendered, white officers and soldiers would be paroled in a few days; but that if the posts were carried by assault, no prisoners would be taken.

"Rome is all right."

Mr. Dana's second bulletin, is as follows:

The subjoined dispatches have reached the department this afternoon:

NASHVILLE, TEN., 4 P. M. Oct. 17.—The following dispatch has been received from Gen. Sherman:

"SHIP'S GAP, 5 P. M., October 16.—We took Ship's Gap to day, capturing a part of the 24th North Carolina. Two corps are represented at Lafayette, and one went south from Villanova Plain. They obstructed Snake Creek Pass to delay our trains, but by to-morrow I can move in any direction.

"W. T. SHERMAN, Major General."

"Deserters from Hood's army report his force at 30,000.

"The strength of his cavalry is not known.

"There is no additional news from the Tennessee river, except that Roddy's forces moved from Tusculum yesterday.

"G. H. THOMAS, Major General."

"CHATTANOOGA, October 17, 10 P. M.—There is no news of Hood's army left Lafayette, going south at daylight this morning.

"J. M. SCHOFIELD, Major General."

The country south and southwest of Lafayette is exceedingly difficult for an inferior army, vigorously pursued, consisting of narrow valleys parallel to the ranges of Taylor's Ridge and Lookout Mountains, broken by rough hills and destitute of food for man or beast, until you reach the Coosa river, a distance equal to three days' forced marches.

C. A. DANA, Acting Secretary of War.

'It is said that the heaviest mortar shelling of the siege of Petersburg, took place last Tuesday night week. The firing from both sides was severe.

## Chesapeake and Ohio Canal.

POINT OF ROCKS, MD., October 16, 1864.—Mosby made a raid on the boats yesterday, capturing and burning some four or five boats, carrying off many mules and horses, and some prisoners. There is no guard from Noland's Ferry to Muddy Branch. Boating must stop unless a guard is placed on the canal between the places named. Many boats are here, but will not move until something is done. I am here on my way down paying off, but cannot finish until this excitement is over. The boats were all empty; no laden boats were burned.—The river was forded at White's Ferry on the 9 mile level. Very respectfully,

Geo. W. SPATES, Supt.

A dispatch, dated at Nashville yesterday, states that Hood has destroyed twenty-three miles of the railroad between Tunnel Hill and Resaca, and also that portion of the road between Big Shanty and Altoona. Resaca, we are now told, was not surrendered to the Confederates, but that Dalton was. From Dalton Hood proceeded in a southwest direction until he was confronted at Snake Creek Gap by the Federal forces under General Stanley. At this point a severe engagement took place, the result of which is not recorded. Hood subsequently reached Summerville.

At the camp of Chalons in France this year (says the *Moniteur*), each infantry regiment grew in its own garden about forty turnips, cabbages, as well as potatoes, carrots, turnips, leeks, &c., in similar proportions. In consequence of the favorable results which have attended this system, kitchen gardens for the supply of troops are about to be formed in the principal garrison towns.

The Republican State Convention of Md., did not adjourn, without giving a shot at Mr. Reverdy Johnson, who was denounced in the strongest terms, calling him a deserter and traitor, and predicting that he will desert from his present position.

On Monday last, the Confederates in the Valley, who are now reported to be under the command of Longstreet, re-occupied Fisher's Hill, and were fortifying it. Sheridan's troops, we are told, were at the time in the vicinity of Strasburg.

An explosion took place yesterday, at the Baltimore Gas Works, which destroyed a portion of the machinery, and the building in which the machinery was placed. Loss \$30,000 or \$40,000.

An article from the *Richmond Whig* is copied in the Northern papers, threatening retaliation for the devastation caused in the Valley of Virginia by General Sheridan's army, by the burning of Northern towns, &c.

The *New York Post* says that reinforcements for General Grant's army are going from that port daily. The *Richmond papers* are looking for important military movements and a great battle daily.

Gold, in New York, yesterday, 213@208½.

Lieut. C. C. Parsons, of the Fourth Regular Artillery, U. S. A., who was summarily dismissed the service on the 5th of September last, has been restored to his rank and position in his regiment, with pay and allowances from the date of his dismissal. Lieut. Parsons' dismissal grew out of his connexion as Judge Advocate with a recent court-martial at West Point, which incurred the displeasure of the Secretary of War.

The steamer *Magenta* brings New Orleans dates of the 12th inst. There was some diversity of opinion regarding the practical result of the new trade regulations under which it is understood the U. S. Government agent will purchase all cotton brought across the lines at 25 per ct. below New York prices, allowing sellers to take back one-third the amount in family supplies. The other two thirds it is inferred are to be paid in greenbacks.

The arrest and commitment to the Old Capitol in Washington, of so many merchants and traders of Baltimore and Washington, and perhaps other places, charged with being concerned in blockade running, or being cognizant of the same, is the subject of much inquiry. In a few days, it is said, a statement will be made of the whole case. The arrested:

The Foreign news by the *Scotia* is to the 9th inst. Continued uneasiness exists in the commercial and financial circles in England, and additional failures had taken place. The Confederate loan has fallen, and then rallied. The English papers comment on American affairs much as formerly, most of them thinking there are yet no signs of peace.

The "Unconditional Union State Convention of Maryland," have made the following nominations:—For Governor, Thomas Swann; Lieutenant Governor, Dr. C. C. Cox; Attorney General, Alexander Randall; Court of Appeals, Judge Weisel.

The town of Otsego, New York, has determined to pay off the debt incurred this fall for bounties. This will call for a levy of over one hundred dollars on every one thousand dollars, in addition to national, state, county, and other taxes.

Colonel George D. Wells, of the thirty-fourth Massachusetts regiment, was shot through the breast while leading his brigade (in Crook's command) in the fight near Strasburg, on Saturday last.

Gen. Butler has carried into effect the order to place certain Confederate prisoners to work in Dutch Gap canal, in retaliation for putting negro soldiers (prisoners) to work on the entrenchments.

In Boston there are now one hundred and sixty six divorce suits upon the calendar of the courts. Also, a large number of petitions for leave to marry again by divorced persons.